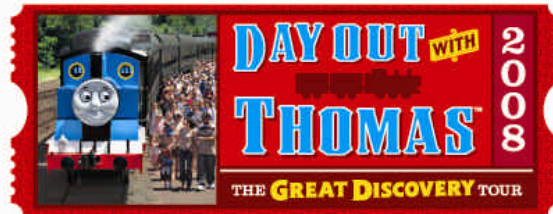


Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad
On Site Contact: Nichole Gutshall
330-657-1903, nichole.gutshall@cvsr.com

Dan Klores Communications
Nicole Tubman at 212-981-5135
nicole_tubman@dkcnews.com or
Antoinette Romeo at 212 -981-5154
antoinette_romeo@dkcnews.com

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DAY OUT WITH THOMAS™ 2008: THE GREAT DISCOVERY TOUR **PULLING INTO CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD**

Thomas the Tank Engine™ to visit Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad
Saturday, May 17 & Sunday, May 18
Friday, May 23, Saturday, May 24 & Sunday, May 25

Boston Mill Boarding Station (next to Ski Resort) – Peep! Peep! Thomas the Tank Engine is set to roll into Peninsula for the ***Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour***. The event which takes place **Saturday, May 17, Sunday, May 18 and Friday, May 23, Saturday, May 24, & Sunday, May 25** will be hosted by Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, Boston Mill Boarding Station 7100 Riverview Rd, Peninsula OH 44264 and presented by HIT Entertainment.

For more than six decades, children have been captivated with the tales of Thomas the Tank Engine. Pulling out of the station for its 13th consecutive ride on the rails, the ***Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour*** will visit more than 45 cities in the United States and Canada. ***Day Out With Thomas*** is the only place for families to take a ride with a 15-ton replica of everybody's favorite #1 engine, Thomas the Tank Engine, and enjoy Thomas-themed activities at the Imagination Station, including stamps, temporary tattoos and hands-on arts and crafts. Each year the tour grows, traveling to new destinations, adding new activities and welcoming new visitors.

Thomas the Tank Engine, star of *Thomas & Friends™*, on PBS KIDS® and PBS KIDS SproutSM will be kicking off his ***Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour*** in March and is expected to welcome more than 1 million passengers through December. This limited-engagement experience features a variety of ***Thomas & Friends***-themed entertainment for the entire family, including:

- A 25-minute (approximate) ride with Thomas the Tank Engine
- The opportunity to meet **Sir Topham Hatt™**, Controller of the Railway
- A ***Thomas & Friends Imagination Station***; featuring stamps, temporary tattoos, hands-on arts and crafts activities and coloring sheets.
- Storytelling, video viewing and live music

-more-

The tour provides a unique, interactive family experience at every station, offering a variety of entertaining activities that reflect the local flavor of each stop. At the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad activities will include: comical clowns, marvelous magicians, bubbly balloon makers, incredible inflatable jumpy train, magical mazes, incredible petting zoo and much more!

The approximately 25-minute train ride with Thomas the Tank Engine will depart every 45 minutes, rain or shine, with departure times at 9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. daily. Tickets for the **Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour** are \$18 for ages two and up.

Tickets are on sale now by calling toll-free 866.468.7630 or logging onto www.ticketweb.com/thomas. For more information and directions contact Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad at 800-468-4070 or www.cvsr.com.

For general information or to find a **Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour** event near you, visit www.thomasandfriends.com.

For media use only: For high-resolution downloadable artwork or additional information please go to www.hitnewsonline.com select **Day Out With Thomas 2008: The Great Discovery Tour** Artwork.

About Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad is one of the longest and most scenic tourist excursion railways in the country with 51 miles of track stretching from Independence, OH just south of Cleveland, to Akron and Canton. Almost half of this distance travels through Cuyahoga Valley National Park, along the Cuyahoga River and the historic Ohio & Erie Canalway. Train passengers can make a full day of it and double their fun by combining their train ride with a visit to one of the many attractions in Akron and Canton. For more information on all of our excursions please visit: www.cvsr.com.

About Thomas & Friends

Thomas & Friends, the #1 preschool toy property in the US (source: The NPD Group/Consumer Panel Tracking: YTD September 2007) invites children to enter a world of imagination through the tracks of a train and the words of a story. Today, families in more than 100 countries enjoy fun and adventure with their engine friends while experiencing timeless life lessons of discovery, friendship and cooperation. *Thomas & Friends* is making tracks to great destinations on PBS KIDS® and PBS KIDS SproutSM. For more information about the world of *Thomas the Tank Engine* and his friends, please visit www.thomasandfriends.com.

About HIT Entertainment

HIT Entertainment, owned by private equity investment group Apax Partners, is one of the world's leading independent children's entertainment producers and rights-owners. HIT's portfolio includes properties, such as *Barney*TM, *Bob the Builder*TM, *Thomas & Friends*TM, *Pingu*TM, *Fireman Sam*TM, *Angelina Ballerina*TM and *Rainbow Magic*TM. HIT represents *Fifi and the Flowertots*TM in North America and Japan and acts as a worldwide representative for The Jim Henson Company's library of classic family brands and as representative for *The Wiggles*® in the UK. HIT also owns the Guinness World RecordsTM publishing and television property. Launched in 1989, HIT's lines of business span television and video production (including studios in the US and the UK), publishing, consumer products licensing and live events. With a catalogue of more than 1,000 hours of young children's programming, HIT sells its shows to more than 240 countries worldwide, in more than 40 different languages and has operations in the UK, US, Canada, Hong Kong and Japan. In 2005, the Company joined Comcast Corporation, PBS and Sesame Workshop to launch PBS KIDS SproutSM, a 24-hour digital cable channel and VOD service for preschoolers. In 2007, HIT and Chellomedia, the European content division of Liberty Global, Inc and its subsidiary ChelloZone, announced a joint venture to launch and distribute JimJam, an international preschool TV channel (excludes the US, UK and China). For more information, visit www.hitentertainment.com.